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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/755,432	01/05/2001	Marise Chan	60001.0006US01	4762

27488 7590 07/15/2005  
MICROSOFT CORPORATION  
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MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55402-0903

EXAMINER

SAIN, GAUTAM

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2176

DATE MAILED: 07/15/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Supplemental  
Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

09/755,432

Examiner

Gautam Sain

Applicant(s)

CHAN ET AL.

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**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☐ This communication is responsive to \_\_\_\_\_.
2. ☐ The allowed claim(s) is/are \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ The drawings filed on \_\_\_\_\_ are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
  1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**


5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
  - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
    - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit  
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date 071405.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_.

G.S.

  
HEATHER R. HERNDON  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100

**DETAILED ACTION**

**SUPPLEMENTAL EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

1) An Examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Authorization for this Examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Murrell Blackburn (Reg No 50881)(concluding on Evening of 7/13/05, EST).

The application has been amended as follows:

11. (Currently amended) A computer-implemented method for generating a graphical object including a Format Cells dialog box for choosing the number format of a number in an electronic spreadsheet application program module, the method ~~dialog box~~ comprising:

generating a Category menu comprising a plurality of number categories to select for the number;

generating a Locale menu comprising a plurality of locales to select as the locale identification for the number independent of at least one of operating system regional settings and a language version of the electronic spreadsheet application program module; and

generating a Type menu comprising a plurality of sample display formats to select to display the number.

12. (Currently amended) The method ~~Format Cells dialog box~~ of claim 11 wherein the plurality of sample display formats is generated in response to a selection of one of the plurality of number categories and a selection of one of the plurality of locales.

13. (Currently amended) The method ~~Format Cells dialog box~~ of claim 11 wherein each of the plurality of sample display formats has a corresponding underlying number format.

14. (Currently amended) The method ~~Format Cells dialog box~~ of claim 13 wherein a selection of one of the plurality of sample display formats causes the corresponding underlying number format of the selected sample display format to be applied to the number independent of at least one of the regional settings and the language version of the electronic spreadsheet application program module.

18. (Currently amended) The method ~~Format Cells dialog box~~ of claim 13, wherein the underlying number format includes at least one of a calendar type of the number and a number shape of the number.

19. (Currently amended) The method ~~Format Cells dialog box~~ of claim 18, wherein the number shape is determined based on the selection of one of the plurality of number categories and the selection of one of the plurality of locales.

20. (Currently amended) The method ~~Format Cells dialog box~~ of claim 18, wherein the calendar type is determined based on the selection of one of the plurality of number categories and the selection of one of the plurality of locales.

### ***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Gautam Sain whose telephone number is 571-272-4096. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9-5 EST.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Heather Herndon can be reached on 571-272-4136. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

G.S.

GS

  
HEATHER R. HERNDON  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
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